



Disability Discrimination: Overview of the Laws

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 prohibits discrimination based on disability in any program or activity operated by recipients of federal funds. Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) prohibits discrimination based on disability by public entities, regardless of whether they receive federal financial assistance.

Examples of the types of discrimination prohibited include inequitable access to educational programs and facilities, denial of a free appropriate public education for elementary and secondary students, and refusal to implement or inappropriate implementation of academic adjustments in higher education. A fuller list of Section 504 and Title II issues OCR addresses appears on the [Disability Discrimination](#) page. The regulations for Section 504 and Title II are enforced by OCR and appear in the Code of Federal Regulations here: [Section 504](#) and [Title II of the ADA](#).

Section 504 and Title II also prohibit employment discrimination; complainants may choose whether to pursue such complaints with OCR or with the [Equal Employment Opportunity Commission](#)

Find more information on [Disability Discrimination](#) here.

Links to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and its implementing regulations:

- [Public Law 93-113 - October 1, 1973 \(USCode.house.gov\)](#)
- [34 CFR 104](#)

Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and its implementing regulations.



- [42 USC 12131-12134 \(USCode.house.gov\)](#)
- [28 CFR 35](#)

Office for Civil Rights (OCR)

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